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25 July 1963

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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Egypt--Rockets: [Preliminary analysis of information on Egypt's new two-stage rocket indicates that it is virtually useless as a military weapon.]

[Four of these rockets were displayed in the 23 July parade in Cairo. The new vehicle, called the Pioneer or Vanguard, appears to be a combination of the two rockets shown last year, Al Kaher (the Conqueror) and Al Zafer (the Victor). Its over-all length is approximately 40 feet, probably consisting of a Conqueror first stage and a Victor second stage. If used as a surface-to-surface rocket, it would have a range of 800-850 n. m. However, it has no guidance system and can carry only a small payload.]

[Although no firings of either the Victor or the Conqueror have been reported since July 1962, the UAR press claims that the new vehicle has been fired several times.]

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UK - Somali Republic - Kenya: Britain's offer to hold discussions with the Somali Republic and Kenya in early August regarding Kenya's Somali-inhabited Northeastern Region is unlikely to produce a peaceful solution.

If Mogadiscio accepts the offer, it almost certainly will demand an eventual plebiscite in the disputed area. Kenya's new African Government--exuding confidence following its defense alliance concluded earlier this month with Ethiopia--would enter the discussion from a position of strength, and would oppose any solution which might lead to cession of the disputed area to Somalia.

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Western Europe: [Since the exception made for Canada, West European opinion has become increasingly skeptical and even negative regarding the recently proposed US tax on purchases of foreign securities.]

[At the meeting of the EEC's monetary committee on 22 July, it was reported that reactions to the proposed tax varied, but that most were negative. Critics questioned the effectiveness of the tax as a means of easing the US balance-of-payments problem. Several participants at the meeting, as well as other European officials, have also expressed the view that the tax would "inevitably" require the US to resort to exchange controls for enforcement purposes.]

[Although European officials have long urged the US to take steps to curb capital outflows, which they consider a major source of the US payments problem, many of them are apparently also concerned that any restriction on the availability of US capital could in the long run have a deflationary impact in Europe.]

[Reaction is much more favorable to the other items in the US plan for easing the balance-of-payments problem, and most observers evidently believe these moves increase confidence in the dollar.]

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DAILY BRIEF

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***Syria:** Tension remains high in Damascus where intermittent firing continued throughout yesterday.

Other parts of the country are quiet and the curfew has been reduced. A pro-Nasir demonstration in Aleppo during the early morning of 24 July was suppressed by National Guard units. Seven more participants in the abortive 18 July coup have been executed, bringing the total executed to 34, and the round-up of pro-Nasir elements continues.

The cause of yesterday's renewal of fighting is unclear. However, it probably relates to the Baath's attempts to crush all opposition. [redacted]

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Brazil: Leonel Brizola--President Goulart's ultra-nationalist, anti-US brother-in-law--reportedly plans to accept an invitation from Ben Bella to visit Algeria; he may also travel to Czechoslovakia and Poland. Brizola indicated some interest in Algeria's experience in organizing guerrilla and terrorist groups. There is some evidence that Cuba's ambassador to Brazil, Raul Roa Kouri, may have used his contacts in Czechoslovakia to arrange an invitation from that country for Brizola.

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES

The United States Intelligence Board, on 24 July 1963, approved the following national intelligence estimates:

SNIE 22-2-63: "The French Nuclear Weapons Program" 25X1

SNIE 13-2-63: "Communist China's Advanced Weapons Program" 25X1

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The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

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The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

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The Director of Intelligence and Research

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The Director, The Joint Staff

The Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

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